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TOP SECRET WORKING PAPER

IEG/MSD-176/70
20 January 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Director, NPIC

THROUGH: Chief, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC

SUBJECT: SS-13 Deployment

25X1 REFERENCE: [redacted] dated 7 January 1970

1. Photo analysis has not revealed any explanation or reason why the SS-13 missile system is deployed at only one ICBM complex (Yoshkar-Ola) and at the Plesetsk Missile and Space Center; or why construction began on only two single-silo groups per year at Yoshkar-Ola from 1967 through 1969 in contrast to an average of six SS-9 groups and 12 SS-11 groups which were started each year at other complexes in the same time period.

2. For each mission a search is conducted for evidence of additional missile deployment at all deployed ICBM and MR/IRBM complexes that are covered as well as other portions of the Soviet Union. So far, there is no photographic evidence which suggests that the SS-13 missile system is being deployed at any location other than Yoshkar-Ola and the R & D sites of Plesetsk.

3. There are also no indications on photography that the Soviets are experiencing problems with the SS-13 missile system at either the R & D or deployed sites that might account for the slow pace of deployment. The construction of individual SS-13 silos takes about two years from the estimated time of start of construction until they are observed complete. This is compatible with the construction timing of both the SS-9 and SS-11 silos, which take a similar period of time.

[redacted]
Chief, Missiles and Space Division,
IEG/NPIC

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TS [redacted] suspense 8 Jan

22 Jan

7 Jan '70

Ch, IEG -

- What kinds of analysis have we done of the SS-13 deployment to determine if photography offers any explanation of the relatively slower pace of the SS-13 deployment?

[redacted]

25X1 1/19 - Checked HH [redacted] working on this

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15 Jan 70

Ch, IEG —

I have been following the series of reports (PIR Briefs, etc) which are being produced by IEG on Afghanistan military facilities and Soviet weapons there. You are building an excellent base record, also relevant to today, with these individual short reports. I think this is the most useful way to serve the customer in this subject area, and you are doing it well.

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